

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 PC-10 USIA-15 DODE-00

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R 021318Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8038

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS OSLO 1397

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID NO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN FOOD AID FOR SAHEL

REF: (A) STATE 51791; (B) ROME 4327; (C) OSLO 1144;

(D) STATE 61892

1. OSLO REFERENCE TELEGRAM, WHICH WAS POSSIBLE GARBLED IN TRANSMISSION READ: "GON APPROPRIATED \$1 MILLION FOR FOOD DONATIONS TO SAHEL COUNTRIES ON FEBRUARY 15. THE AID MONEY WILL BE CHanneled THROUGH FAO (UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION) (\$670,000), THE NORWEGIAN RED CROSS (\$165,000) AND THE CHURCHES' RELIEF FUND (\$165,000). THESE ORGANIZATIONS WILL DECIDE CATEGORIES OF FOOD AS WELL AS RECIPIENT SAHEL COUNTRIES. GON UNCLASSIFIED

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FOOD AID TO SAHEL COUNTRIES AMOUNTED TO \$585,000 IN 1973."

2. THE CHURCHES' RELIEF FUND (CRF) HAS SO FAR USED 3 MILLION KRONER (\$500,000), INCLUDING THE 1 MILLION KRONER (\$165,000) GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATION AND 2 MILLION KRONER FROM PRIVATE DONATIONS, FOR AID TO THE SAHEL COUNTRIES. THE CRF CONCENTRATES ITS ACTIVITIES IN CHAD, AND ITS AID IS GIVEN IN THE FORM OF TRANSPORTATION (5 BIG TRUCKS AND 3 OR 4 LANDROVERS), MEDICINES, AND MEDICAL AID. FOOD DONATIONS BY THE CRF ARE MARGINAL, ONLY 20-30 TONS OF RICE PURCHASED IN CAMEROON AND MINOR QUANTITIES OF DRIED MILK FROM NORWAY.

3. THE NORWEGIAN RED CROSS USED A TOTAL OF 3 MILLION KRONER (\$500,000) FOR AID TO THE SAHEL COUNTRIES IN 1973. AN OFFICIAL OF THE NRC ESTIMATED THE SHARE OF FOOD AID (MAINLY HALF A MILLION GOVERNMENT-DONATED K-RATIONS) AT 2 MILLION KRONER (\$335,000), TRANSPORTATION FROM NORWAY INCLUDED. AN NRC CAMPAIGN FOR AID TO SAHEL COUNTRIES CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN NORWAY IS EXPECTED TO RESULT IN PRIVATE DONATIONS OF BETWEEN 5 AND 10 MILLION KRONER (\$835,000 TO \$1,670,000) IN ADDITION TO THE 1 MILLION KRONER (\$165,000) GOVERNMENT GRANT. THE NRC HAS STILL TO DECIDE WHERE AND HOW TO USE THE FUNDS. THE NRC OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED SAID THAT THE SAHEL AID PROBABLY WOULD BE GIVEN IN THE FORM OF FOOD AND FOOD TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION IN NIGER. HE COULD NOT INDICATE WHAT KIND OF FOOD AND WHERE IT WOULD BE BOUGHT. THE NRC ON MARCH 29 SENT A C-130 HERCULES TRANSPORT CHARTERED FROM THE ROYAL NORWEGIAN AIR FORCE TO LIBERIA. THE TRANSPORT WILL BE USED FOR FLYING INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS PROVISIONS FROM MONROVIA TO TIMBUKTU AND GAO IN MALI AND TO AN UNIDENTIFIED AIRSTRIP IN UPPER VOLTA. BYRNE

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